



**HISPANIC/LATINO QUALITY OF LIFE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING February 25, 2015 MINUTES**

The Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday February 25, 2015 at the Street Jones Building at 1000 E. 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78702.

The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:18 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Frank Rodriguez, Diego Martinez-Moncada, Emilio Zamora and Martha Cotera

Staff in Attendance: Jason Garza, Assistant to the Assistant City Manager

1. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Cotera and seconded by Vice-Chair Martinez-Moncada to approve the minutes. The motion was approved on a unanimous.

2. Citizens Communication

Citizens signed up for citizen communication were the following:

- Mr. Calderon
- Jane Rivera
- Cynthia Valadez
- Alberto Gonzalez

3. Presentation from Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Citywide Youth Program Manager regarding Youth Service Programs Currently Offered by the City of Austin.

Dr. Chiquita Eugene, Citywide Youth Program Manager from the City of Austin's Human Resources Department gave a presentation of the current youth programs that the city offers either directly or through contracted services. Dr. Eugene also gave information regarding current initiatives such as AustinCorps and the Austin Youth Council. After the presentation, Dr. Eugene fielded questions from both the Commission and audience members. Once all questions were answered and feedback given, Dr. Eugene left information regarding her office and the initiatives she mentioned in her presentation.

4. Presentation from Austin Independent School District (AISD) Superintendent Dr. Paul Cruz regarding Education Policies and Issues within the City of Austin and AISD.

Raul Alvarez, with the AISD School Turnaround Initiative, gave a presentation to the Commission regarding education policies and issues within AISD. During his presentation, Mr. Alvarez highlighted several key initiatives and programs that are currently being offered by the District. After the presentation, Mr. Alvarez fielded questions from the Commission and comments from the audience.

5. Update from Jose Guerrero, Watershed Protection Department Assistant Director, regarding the Flood Buyout Program.

Jose Guerrero from the Watershed Protection Department gave an update regarding the City's Flood Buyout Program. In his update, Mr. Guerrero gave an overview of actions taken by the City with regards to funding, property acquisition. Mr. Guerrero also gave an update regarding the issue of a mandatory or volunteer buyout policy. Staff is still working on the policy and it may be volunteer, mandatory or a hybrid of both. The policy will go before Council sometime before May. The Commission asked questions regarding the current work done and the upcoming policy which Mr. Guerrero provided responses.

6. Discussion of future agenda items

It was requested by the Commission to have a special called meeting for March 11th. At that meeting, the Commission requested a briefing from the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Commission regarding the department's program and initiatives. It was also requested that there be a discussion item to make a recommendation to Council regarding enhanced intergovernmental coordination with regards to education and that the City take a major role in that initiative. Commissioner Cotera requested an item to recommend to the City Council that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) be included in the City's legislative agenda.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Cotera to adjourn and it was seconded by Vice-Chair Martinez-Moncada. The Commission approved the motion unanimously. The Meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.